Setting up of a Federal Environmental Protection Agency

2848. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any unified environmental agency to cover the entire country with effective authority, powers and infrastructure; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) if not, whether Government propose to set up a Federal Environmental Protection Agency; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) to (c) The Government has decided to set up an Environment Protection Authority. The Authority will assist the Government in formulation of policy and will implement Government's policy in all matters concerning environment. It will utilise the existing infrastructure wherever possible and will fill the gaps where necessary.

Reported training of G.N.L.F. activists in Nepal

2849. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:
SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM:
SHRI K. MOHANAN:
SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE:
SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY:
SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI:
SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in The Hindustan Times dated the 15th December, 1987 to the effect that G.N.L.F. rebels are being trained in Nepal; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government have no definite evidence in this regard.

Reorganisation of districts in States

2850. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to initiate steps for reorganisation of districts in different States for smooth administration;

(b) if so, whether Government would provide necessary financial assistance to the States for taking up reorganisation; and

(c) whether any instruction has been issued to the State Governments for the reorganisation of the districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) to (c) Reorganisation of districts is a State subject and decisions in this regard are taken by the concerned State Governments. However, for the upgradation of standards of district and revenue administration in the States, under the award of Eighth Finance Commission, financial assistance to the States is provided.